



WALTHAM HOLY CROSS  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

*for the year ending December 31st, 1955*



# Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1955:

Chairman : Councillor Mr. O. Edwards

### Members :

Councillor : Mr. M. C. Barrett

„ Mr. E. W. Broe

„ Mr. L. C. Elsom

„ Mr. J. Halliday

„ Mr. K. W. Meekin

Chairman of Council *ex-officio* : Mr. T. C. Grove

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :

### Medical Officer of Health :

Dr H. FRANKS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

### Sanitary Inspector :


Mr. W. H. MEYNELL, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

*Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors'  
Examination Joint Board.*

*Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute of Inspector of Meat  
and Other Foods.*

### Clerk :

Mrs. E. J. BIRD



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# WALTHAM HOLY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## *To the Chairman and Members of the Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council*

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report, including the Sanitary Inspector's Report, for the year ending 31st December, 1955.

In the statistical tables which follow, births and deaths have been corrected for "inward" and "outward" transfers—i.e., they refer only to persons who normally reside in the District, and they include all births and deaths among them wherever occurring. They have also been adjusted to allow for any difference in the age and sex distribution of the local population when compared with the averages for England and Wales. Infectious diseases, however, are allocated to the district in which they arise irrespective of place of normal residence of the patient. All rates and figures include members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area.

**Vital Statistics.** There was an increase in the number of births (180 compared with 149 in the previous year). The death rate declined slightly. The majority of deaths continued to be due to heart disease and cancer. There were ten deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus (compared with six in the previous year), and it is the general tendency throughout the country for cancer of these sites to claim more victims year by year. There is growing evidence that atmospheric pollution, as well as heavy cigarette smoking, is associated with this increase.

**Infectious Diseases.** (*See also Section F.*) Apart from a large, though mild, outbreak of measles, there was very little



infectious disease in the District. There were three notifications of poliomyelitis (including one paralytic).

The continued absence of diphtheria is particularly gratifying. There were no deaths from notifiable infectious disease.

### **Paratyphoid Fever.**

Towards the end of July six cases of paratyphoid fever, type 3B (including three in one family) were notified within a day or two of each other.

Investigation showed that all the cases had eaten cakes from a bakery in Waltham Abbey during the incubation period. With the helpful co-operation of the proprietor, the probable source of infection was readily traced to a consignment of imported canned egg used about a fortnight previously in preparing cake fillings at the bakery. None of this consignment remained for testing.

The Ministry of Health was advised by telephone, and one of the Ministry's Senior Medical Officers (Dr. Grant Nichol) visited the bakery with me. He was able to confirm that canned egg from the same source had recently been associated with cases of paratyphoid fever in other areas, and the Ministry were taking all necessary steps to prevent its further distribution and use.

One of the cases was a cowman at a dairy farm in the District, and immediate precautions were taken at the farm to suspend the sale of all unpasteurised T.T. milk. All staff at the farm and at the bakery, and all case contacts were tested and kept under supervision. Official notices were served on behalf of the Council, suspending three contacts from food handling employment pending the investigations, one of whom subsequently submitted a claim for loss of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  weeks' pay, which was met by the Council (Section 41 of the Waltham Holy Cross Urban District Council Act, 1937).

As a result of the above measures, four contacts were found to be infected (all Type 3B) and were isolated and treated in hospital. No further cases occurred.

**National Assistance Act, 1948.** One person was reported to be in need of care and attention, but her needs were dealt with without having recourse to the above Act.

In concluding, I would again like to record my appreciation to the staff of the Public Health Department for their continued help and co-operation, and the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year.

H. FRANKS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

# REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

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*(Sections C, D & E)*

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Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my sixteenth Annual Report on the work carried out by the Department during 1955.

All matters pertaining to Public Health were dealt with as expeditiously as possible. In the sphere of housing, slum clearance work claimed precedence over other activities.

Meat inspection occupies a great deal of my time. It will be seen from the report that the number of animals slaughtered in the area increased by 21,845 : 17,528 in 1954 to 39,372 in 1955.

100 per cent inspection of the carcasses and organs was effected during the year. If the rate of slaughter continues, it will not be possible to maintain this level of inspection. It is not equitable that one Officer should maintain a service seven days a week ad infinitum. There are limits to mental and physical endurance.

I take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Council, Members of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and all other colleagues for their invaluable co-operation and assistance during the year.

W. H. MEYNELL, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.  
*Sanitary Inspector.*



## SECTION A.

# Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres	....	....	....	10,959
Civilian Population (mid 1955)	....	....	....	9,430

### Vital Statistics.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births : Legitimate	88	82	170
Illegitimate	4	3	7
		Total	177

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Corrected Birth rate per 1,000 of the population	17.5	15.0

	Male	Female	Total
Still Births : Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	16.7	23.1

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths (all causes)	49	36	85
	(Registrar General's Figures)		

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Corrected Death rate per 1,000 population	9.4	11.7

Deaths of Infants under 1 year :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	0	0	0
		Total	6

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks old ....	3	0	3
	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales	
Death rate of infants under 1 year (per 1,000 live births)	33.9	24.9	
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under age 2 years	0		
Maternal Deaths (per 1,000 total births) ....	0	0.64	

### **Causes of Death as given by the Registrar General for the Year 1955**

	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of lung and bronchus ....	7	3	10
Cancer (all other sites) ....	3	8	11
Coronary Disease and Angina ....	10	6	16
All other diseases of heart and circulation ....	10	14	24
Tuberculosis ....	0	0	0
Pneumonia ....	4	0	4
Bronchitis ....	2	1	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ....	1	0	1
Congenital Malformations ....	0	1	1
Road accidents ....	2	0	2
Other accidents ....	1	1	2
All other causes ....	9	2	11
	—	—	—
	49	36	85
	—	—	—

### **Death Rates per Million of Population**

	Waltham Holy Cross	Average for England & Wales
Cancer of lung and bronchus	1060	389
Cancer (all other sites) ....	1167	1667
Tuberculosis of respiratory organs ....	0	131

## SECTION B

# General Provisions of the Health Services in the area

- (a) **Public Health Officers** of the Local Authority (see page 2).
- (b) **Laboratory Facilities.** A Ministry of Health Laboratory operates at St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping. Milk, water and ice cream samples are examined at the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.
- (c) **Ambulance Facilities.** Transport of the sick and injured and maternity cases is the responsibility of the Essex County Council and is free of charge.

In cases of accident or emergency, an ambulance is obtained by dialling 999 on any Waltham Cross telephone. Where there is no dialling system it is sufficient to lift the receiver and ask for an ambulance to be sent to the place required, or to deliver the message personally at the Fire Station, Romeland, Waltham Abbey. Calls of a non-urgent nature are only accepted from responsible persons in the service, e.g. doctors, nurses, etc.

- (d) **Hospitals.** The hospitals serving the area are administered by the North-East London Regional Hospital Board.

(e) **Child Welfare.** The Essex County Council (Forest Area) is the Welfare Authority for the district. Clinics are held at the following times at "The Cedars," Sewardstone Road, Waltham Abbey :—

**Child Welfare Centre.** Every Friday at 2 p.m.

**School Children (minor ailments).** 2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month at 10.0 a.m.

**Diphtheria Immunisation.** 2nd and 4th Tuesday in each month at 11.0 a.m. No charge is made.

**Ante-Natal Clinic.** 1st and 3rd. Monday in each month at 2 p.m.

**Women's Welfare.** Monday. By appointment only.

**Relaxation Class for Expectant Mothers.** Every Tuesday afternoon.

**Dental Clinic.** By appointment only.

**Speech Therapist.** By appointment only.

**Eye Specialist.** By appointment only.

**Physiotherapist.** By appointment only.

**Upshire Village Hall (Weighing Centre).** Alternate Thursdays at 3 p.m.

(f) **School Health Service.** The Education Authority is the Essex County Council. School nurses inspect the children regularly, and there is a medical inspection at each school not less than once per year. Advice and treatment are provided at the Combined Treatment Centre at the appropriate sessions as listed above.



- (g) **Tuberculosis Service.** Tuberculosis Dispensary at Honey Lane Hospital, Waltham Abbey, every Monday at 2 p.m., for new patients.

During the year the Care Association for the area covering the Chigwell, Epping, Waltham Abbey and Ongar districts continued to function. The Association assists cases awaiting admission to sanatorium in various ways and arranges also for admission of child contacts to convalescent homes. It concerns itself also with the after care of patients by assistance in obtaining materials for occupational therapy and whenever possible, suitable employment for those fit to work. The Association is supported by voluntary contributions and receives also a grant from the County Council.

The Honorary Secretary is Mr. A. J. Edwards, 37 Woodland Road, Loughton.

- (h) **District Nurses', Health Visitors', Midwives' Services and Home Helps** are provided by the Essex County Council, and administered locally by the Forest Area Health Sub-Committee of the Council. The Area Medical Officer is Dr. F. G. Brown, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H. Municipal Offices, Woodford, E.18, from whom the following statistics have been received :—

#### **Visits paid by Health Visitors.**

1st Visits.			Re-Visits.		
Under 1 year	....	151	Under 1 year	....	380
1—5 years	....	0	1—5 years	....	274
All others	....	277			

#### **Cases attended by Midwives.**

(a)	As Midwives	....	....	....	35
(b)	As Maternity	....	....	....	19
					—
				Total	54
					—



<b>Visits paid by Home Nurses</b>	....	....	4976
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**Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics.**

Ante-Natal	....	....	....	....	285
Post-Natal	....	....	....	....	nil

**Attendances at Child Welfare Clinics.**

Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	....	1568
Children 1—5 years	....	....	....	....	384

**Attendances at Women's Welfare Clinics.**

Birth Control (1st visits)	....	....	....	21
„ (Re-visits)	....	....	....	65
				—
			Total	86
				—

## SECTION C

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number of inspections made during the year was 2,243 ; details regarding the nature of these inspections are given in the following tables.

The Department received 181 complaints covering a variety of subjects ; all were dealt with satisfactorily.

#### *Summary.*

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts)	460
Number of dwelling houses inspected for other than housing defects	116
Number of premises other than houses inspected	1373
Premises re-inspected	102
Visits to works in progress	82
Miscellaneous visits	110
	2243

Included in the above tables are the following classified visits :—

Bakehouses	3	Dairies	50
Camping Sites	54	Factories	51
Cattle Market	48	Infectious Diseases	26
Petroleum Acts	35	Piggeries	18
Licenced Premises	29	Rats and Mice	50
Shops	270	Slaughterhouses	807
		Swimming Pool	3

Details of inspections of food premises and factories are given in the appropriate sections of the report.

## Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

Number of dwelling houses inspected for defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts) ....	460
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal notices ....	82
Statutory notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936 ....	4

My attention was drawn to the insanitary conditions in which two sisters were living. Both were in a shocking state of neglect. There was no food in the house, and the younger sister was seriously ill, whilst the feebleness of the mentality of both was apparent. The premises were in a filthy condition.

The younger sister was removed to hospital where she died within a week. The home was thoroughly cleansed after several loads of junk had been removed and burnt. The elder sister still lives in the house oblivious to everyone and everything.

In another case concerning a man and wife, it was necessary to destroy everything in the house in which they lived. They were temporarily lodged in hospital until the Local Authority was able to re-house and re-equip a new home for them.

The problem of dealing with persons handicapped by feeble mentality is extremely difficult. They allow themselves to decline into filthy conditions, being apparently unconscious of the fact.

These unfortunate people are not certifiable, neither are they in need of care and attention such as would warrant the use of enforcement under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

The inability of these people to fend for themselves subsequently leads to the Local Authority taking action to remedy matters. Costs cannot be recovered because of the circumstances of the cases involved.

Public organisations such as the W.V.S., the Old Peoples' Welfare Committee give freely of their help in necessitous cases, The National Assistance Board and the Welfare Service also assist in their respective province. Unfortunately, however, these cases become glaring before being brought to the notice of the appropriate authority. Then when the person or premises are cleansed and put in order by the Local Authority, all interest seems to fade and unless the Sanitary Inspector keeps the premises under supervision, the conditions complained of above are established again.

One wonders if a good neighbour policy would prevent these unfortunate people being neglected in the first instance, if only by reporting to the Public Health Department in cases where the conditions are such that an investigation is warranted.

Subsequently the person and premises should be the care of the appropriate authority.

Waltham Holy Cross has a large percentage of old people and the problems outlined above are bound to arise ; sympathetic help and consideration would greatly assist in dealing satisfactorily with such problems.

**Petroleum Acts and Orders.**

Licences granted during 1955 .... 35

35 visits were made to ensure that the requirements of the Acts were being observed. Conditions were found to be satisfactory.

**Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

The sewers were baited as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Results were satisfactory. Systematic inspection of the area for the presence of rats and mice was carried out. Where premises were found to be infested, "block control" of all premises and sewers in that particular area was operated.



Sewage farms, pumping stations, and all Local Authority premises were visited and action taken where necessary.

No charge is made for work effected at dwelling houses. In accordance with the Ministry's instructions all business premises are charged with the cost of the work carried out.

Requests for assistance were made where trouble was being caused by wasps nests. Fifteen such cases were dealt with effectually.

Works effected under the Act to the 31st December, 1955, are as follows :—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY.			Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3	Agri- cul- tural
	Local Authority	Non-Agricultural Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (inc. Business Premises)		
1. No. of properties in Local Authority's District	18	2652	288	2958	167
2. No. of properties inspect- ed as a result of					
(a) Notification ... ..	1	35	16	52	1
(b) Survey under the Act	5	35	18	58	9
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for other purpose) ...	0	0	0	0	0
3. Total inspections ...	2	79	37	127	12
4. No. of properties in- spected which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats ( <i>Major</i> ) ...	1	0	3	4	4
( <i>Minor</i> ) ...	3	46	9	58	2
(b) Mice ( <i>Major</i> ) ...	0	0	1	1	0
( <i>Minor</i> ) ...	0	12	1	13	0
5. No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority	4	58	14	76	0
6. Total treatments carried out, inc. re-treatments ...					

### Camping Sites.

No. of sites for which licences have been issued by the Local Authority ....	22
No. of licences issued to station caravans for limited periods ....	8
No. of campers during 1955 (approximately) ....	500



Of the sites licensed, only six were in use during the year. On these sites, there were approximately 121 caravans. The exceptional summer no doubt was responsible for the increase in the number of campers.

The sites are provided with separate privy accommodation for the sexes, an adequate supply of pure water, and also covered receptacles for refuse.

The Council's caravan site at the Woodbine continues to be successful, and at present 53 caravans are accommodated there. Various facilities have been provided for the tenants. 35 visits were made to camping sites.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

The Sewardstone area continues to be polluted with smoke and grit from the Eastern Electricity Board's Power Station at Brimsdown.

Complaints were received regarding nuisance from a factory chimney in the area. Consultations with the Management resulted in an improvement being effected. A change of fuel was obtained on the advice of a Ministry of Fuel and Power Fuel Efficiency Expert.\* Efficient stoking and good fuel are essential factors to combat smoke nuisance. An appeal from the County Medical Officer of Health to collaborate in recording pollution in the area by installing apparatus for this purpose was not received with enthusiasm by the Public Health Committee.

### **Licensed Premises.**

Twenty-nine visits to licensed premises were made. All premises were clean and well kept. The brewers were effecting decorations in a number of instances.

### **Sewerage.**

During the year more properties have been connected to the sewer in the Mott Street/Sewardstone Road area.

The Luthers Area Scheme is in an advanced stage of construction and will provide drainage facilities for most of Sewardstone Hamlet. It will also reduce the number of cesspools in the area.

### **Refuse Collection and Disposal.**

Collection is made weekly from all properties in the area by two modern S.D. vehicles.

Disposal is at a tip at Redrick's Lane in co-operation with the Harlow Urban District Council.

Trade refuse is collected at a small charge.

### **Cesspools.**

Cesspools are emptied quarterly by contract.

### **Roads.**

Council maintained streets are scavenged and gullies emptied by direct labour.

### **Salvage.**

Waste paper is collected and sold to a paper pulping firm. Rags and scrap metal are also collected and sold.

Pig food is collected and processed by a local firm holding a contract with the Council.

### **Water Supply.**

The district is within the Metropolitan Water Board's area of supply. There are outlying parts of the district which do not receive the benefit of this supply and depend solely on water from shallow wells.

At Claverhambury, the Clapton Stadium Limited supply their dwelling houses and kennels, together with an adjoining dairy farm, with water obtained from an artesian well. Samples of water obtained from wells in various parts of the district were favourably reported upon by the Analyst in each case.

## SECTION D

# Housing Statistics

*Estates Administered by the Council.*

Estate	Houses	Bungalows	Prefabs	Flats and Maisonettes	Total
Beechfield Walk ....	20	4	50		74
Beech Hill Gardens	16				16
Butler's Drive ....	16				16
Crooked Mile ....	4				4
Denny Avenue ....	62				62
Eastbrook Road ....	10				10
Farm Hill Road ....	2				2
Forest Close ....	10				10
Gladeway ....		12			12
Harold Estate ....	50				50
Pick Hill ....	8				8
Paternoster Hill ....	80				80
Princesfield Estate....	160			50	210
Rounton Road ....		4			4
Tennyson Avenue ....	20				20
Upshire Road ....	36				36
	494	20	50	50	614
Requisitioned Units	12				
Beaulieu Hutments	10				22
GRAND TOTAL					636

The total number of families rehoused in Council accommodation during the year amounted to 31, (108 persons), made up as follows :—

New dwellings	....	....	....	....	....	8
Transfers	....	....	....	....	....	6
Re-lets	....	....	....	....	....	17

2 dwellings scheduled for demolition were cleared, the displaced tenants being rehoused by the Council.

The total number of new dwellings completed during the year was 89, viz :—

Council Properties	....	....	....	....	....	12
Ministry of Supply	....	....	....	....	....	9
Private dwellings	....	....	....	....	....	68

Inspection of dwelling houses under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925, was as follows :—

1. Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	....					50
2. Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	....					42
3. Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to						
(a) The serving of notices requiring the execution of works	....	....	....	....		Nil
(b) The making of demolition or closing orders						8
4. Number of notices served requiring the execution of works	....	...	....	....	....	Nil
5. Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	....	....	....			Nil
6. Number of demolition or closing orders made	....					3
7. Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under subsection (3) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	....	....				Nil
8. Number of houses demolished	....	....	....			3

Clearance areas to be represented under Section 95 of the Housing Act, 1936 were inspected. All the details which this procedure entails were given the necessary attention and the work was proceeding satisfactorily as the year closed.

The project is the largest slum clearance undertaking ever embarked upon by the Council, embracing as it does 340 premises. The immense amount of work involved in such an undertaking can only be appreciated by those who have had similar experience.

However, although the authority has only a small staff of officers, all have combined to make the operation as successful as possible.

The Urban District Council's Engineer and Surveyor is Mr. George Clarke, A.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun.E., and the Rehousing Officer is Mr. E. H. Entwisle, A.R.V.A., both of whom have made contributions to this Report.



## SECTION E

# Inspection of Food

### **Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949** **Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

Dealers Licences were granted as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested milk	....	....	....	....	....	3
Sterilised milk	....	....	....	....	....	3
Pasteurised milk	....	....	....	....	....	5

5 visits were made to Dairies.

### **Essex County Council Act, 1933.**

#### **Ice Cream Regulations.**

Number of persons registered as vendors .... 93

All the persons registered as vendors do not necessarily sell ice cream in the area now, but the persons concerned have been registered at various times and have not to date withdrawn their licences. Obviously a number of them are itinerate vendors who come into the district from surrounding areas.

#### **Meat and other Foods.**

A cattle market and a general market are held on Tuesday of each week. Regular inspections are made to ensure that satisfactory conditions prevail.

The practice of washing and disinfecting vehicles conveying livestock to and from the market was effected during the year as required by the Transit of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1931.

There are four licenced slaughterhouses in the area, they are :—

1. Enfield Highway Co-operative Society, Ltd.,  
Sewardstone Street, Waltham Abbey, Essex.
2. Farmer Butcher's, Ltd.,  
10 Sun Street, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

3. Waltham Abbey Abattoir, Ltd.,  
Sewardstone, E.4.
4. Waltham Abbey Abattoir, Ltd.,  
Sewardstone, E.4.

The following animals were inspected during the year :—

27	Bulls
3768	Lambs
415	Cows
1033	Steers
1138	Heifers
1719	Calves
23918	Pigs
6685	Sheep
<hr/>	
39373	TOTAL
<hr/>	

The following were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

10	Bovine carcasses
5	Sheep carcasses
33	Pig carcasses
97	Bovine heads and tongues
18	Complete sets of bovine offal
260	Bovine livers
68	Pigs heads
379	Pigs plucks
105	Pigs livers
143	Bovine lambs
62	Bovine part livers
142	Sheeps plucks
52	Sheeps livers
1	Fore quarter of beef
1	Side of pork

Total weight of meat and offal thus surrendered as unfit for human consumption was :—

10 tons, 7 cwts., 2 quarters, 7 lbs.

All meat surrendered is sold to contractors who sterilise unfit meat in steam digesters and the resulting products are utilised in industry. All other foods are rendered innocuous by boiling and used for pig food ; where this is not practicable the articles are burnt.

It will be seen that there is an increase of 21,854 in the number of animals slaughtered, the comparable figures being 17,528 in 1954 and 39,373 for 1955.

Despite the increase in total numbers, the amount of meat surrendered as being unfit for human consumption fell. It is my opinion that the work of the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries is beginning to pay dividends. One does not find the generalised tuberculosis in bovine animals or in swine that was customary before the war. Allied to this is the fact that there is more discrimination in the purchasing of live animals for butchers' meat.

At Waltham Abbey Abbatoir thousands of pigs were being slaughtered up until the 30th September. After that date the Jewish method of slaughter was in vogue under the auspices of the Board of Shechita.

Killing takes place from Sunday to Thursday, commencing at 7 a.m. Inspection has to be effected on these days including Bank Holidays.

The Jewish method of slaughter is clean and expeditious, and in my opinion the operation is humane and painless.

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned:—

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	2868	415	1719	10353	23918
Number inspected ... ..	2868	415	1719	10353	23918
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	4	Nil	5	30
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	142	131	Nil	191	484
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuber- culosis ... ..	4.95%	32.53%	Nil	1.89%	2.107%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	5	Nil	Nil	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	215	43	Nil	Nil	68
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	7.53%	11.5%	Nil	Nil	.29%

## Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1954

Twenty-three slaughtermen were licensed under the above Acts during 1955.

## Food & Drugs Act, 1938

All premises where food is prepared, stored, or exposed for sale were inspected. The following articles were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

2 tins apricots	4 tins mandarin oranges
699 lbs beef (Hindquarter)	1 tin ox tongue
187 lbs topsides of beef	4 tins peaches
7 tins corned beef	6 tins pears
12 chickens (62 lbs)	1 tin pilchards
1 tin dressed crab	7 tins pineapple
3 fowls (14 lbs)	1 tin pork luncheon meat
1 tin gooseberries	1 tin corned rabbit



1 tin grapefruit	1 tin kidney soup
59 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs ham	1 tin vegetable soup
36 lbs lambs livers	1 tin stewed steak
1 tin rock lobster	1 tin tomatoes
3 tins evaporated milk	1 tin tuna fish
1 tin skimmed milk	3 tins jellied veal

Premises used for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food are required to be registered for that purpose with the Local Authority. There are nine premises registered for this purpose. The cooked meat factory, operated by the Local Co-operative Society was transferred into an adjoining area during the year.

Foods are sampled by the Weights and Measures Officer of the Essex County Council, and he supplies me with reports thereon.

The following samples were reported upon during 1955 :—

Cornflower (1)	Genuine
Custard Powder (1)	„
Desiccated Coconut (2)	„
Gravy Salt (1)	„
Lemon Jelly (1)	„
Milks (21)	„
Rice (2)	„
Shredded beef suet (1)	„
Sugar Puffs (1)	„
Sugar sweetened cake mix coconut flavour (1)	„

### **Clean Food Byelaws.**

All premises where food is kept are subject to an inspection with the Clean Food Byelaws kept in mind. Con-



ditions by and large were satisfactory. 237 visits were made to food premises.

### **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.**

The Essex County Council deals principally with matters coming under this heading. I am informed that all samples taken for examination in the area were found to be satisfactory. In addition, 31 samples of milk and 26 samples of ice cream were submitted for examination. The samples are submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, through the Essex County Council Bacteriological Service.

Examination of ice cream samples is in accordance with the Ministry of Health's provisional grading system. Samples submitted were graded as follows :—

Grades.	Samples.
I	23
II	3

Two samples submitted to the coliform test were positive in 1/10th of a ml. in one tube out of three examined.

One sample submitted to coliform test was positive in 1/10th ml. in two tubes out of three examined.

Twelve samples of milk were submitted for biological examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service, County Hall, London, S.E.1. Negative reports were made in each case. These samples are obtained at the request of the County Medical Officer and are paid for by the County Council.

Samples of milk were submitted as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested	2
Pasteurised	17
Tuberculin Tested/Pasteurised	12
Biological examination	12

## **Factories Act, 1937.**

There are 56 factories on the register and 51 visits were made to the premises. Minor defects were found to exist in fifteen instances, and were remedied upon request. There are 22 outworkers in the area.

A number of inspections and recommendations have been made under Section 35, dealing with escape in case of fire.

W. H. MEYNELL, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

*Sanitary Inspector.*

# FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

## PART I OF THE ACT

**I.—INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (inc. inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Inspections (4)	Number of		M/c line No. (7)
				Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ....	1	8	8	nil	nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority 2	2	48	43	nil	nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ....	3	nil	nil	nil	nil	3
		—	—	—	—	—
		56	51	nil	nil	—
		—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL						

## 2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found		Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	10	3	3	nil	1	nil	10
(b) Unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	60	3	3	nil	1	nil	60

## PART VIII OF THE ACT OUTWORK

Nature of work	M/c line No.	Section 110			Section 111			M/c line No.
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing Apparel— Making, etc.	13	17	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	13
Brush Making	35	3	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	35
Stuffed toys	39	1	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	39
Paper bags	33	1	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	33
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	70	22	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	70

SECTION F.  
(see also page 3)

## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases

		Cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Measles	....	139	14	0
Pneumonia	....	1	1	0
Whooping Cough	....	1	0	0
Scarlet Fever	....	3	0	0
Erysipelas	....	1	1	0
Paratyphoid B	....	10	10	0
Poliomyelitis : Paralytic		1	1	0
Non-paralytic	....	2	2	0

### Tuberculosis.

Ten new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year.

MALES		FEMALES	
Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.
3	0	6	1

There was four deaths from this disease.

During the year the voluntary scheme for the vaccination of susceptible thirteen year old children against tuberculosis (with B.C.G. vaccine) was continued by the Essex County Council. There was a good response, 78% of parents having accepted the offer of vaccination for their children.

### Diphtheria.

No cases were notified during the year.



## Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes.

(1) **Smallpox.** 89 primary vaccinations were performed, and 6 persons were re-vaccinated—a satisfactory increase on the previous year's figures (63 primary vaccinations and 14 re-vaccinations).

(2) **Diphtheria.** Immunisation against diphtheria has continued, 83 immunisations and 26 re-inforcing injections having been given during the year, compared with 96 and 33 in the previous year.

(3) **Whooping Cough.** 45 children completed the course of injections during 1955, compared with 52 in 1954.

(4) **Tuberculosis.** Results of the B.C.G. vaccinations of school children (13 years) during the year are given below :—

Number of school children to whom B.C.G.	
Vaccination was offered during the year	77
Number of school children undergoing tuberculin	
test after parents consent had been received	60
Number of children who received B.C.G.	43
Number of cases of post-vaccination complica-	
tions	nil

## Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

## Some Notifiable Diseases during the last five years

Disease	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Scarlet fever	4	17	8	42	3
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Primary Pneumonia	7	9	8	4	1
Erysipelas	1	2	0	0	1
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia	0	2	1	0	0
Measles	184	115	123	4	139
Whooping Cough	50	2	16	0	1



